SUBJECT No. 106.

Supari cess.

1. Mr. C. Srinivsa Rao, Chikmagalur Taluk.

Summary of discussion.—(1) The *supari* cess may be abolished. The officer conducting these investigations is not deputed entirely for this work. Even if *supari* cess were not levied, it would be his duty to investigate questions connected with *koleroga*. In the maidan he has to study *anaberoga* and thus it is not the malnad owners that benefit by these investigations, though they pay the greatest part of the cess.

2. Mr. H. Gundappa, Kunigal Taluk.

(2) The *supari* cess may be levied only on trees actually in bearing. At present in the case of *supari* gardens associated with other cultivation all trees below 6 feet are counted for calculating the cess. This limit is too low and places persons owning mixed gardens at a great disadvantage. Only trees above 12 feet may be counted.

3. Mr. Ramanujiengar, Kunigal Taluk.

(3) The levy of the *supari* cess in no way gives any benefit to garden owners in the maidan, as the cess is intended to meet the cost of investigation of the diseases affecting the *supari* trees and their cure in the malnad. The realization in the maidan tracts may with advantage be made over to the District Board for demonstrating the advantages of water lifts and other helps to agriculture.

Reply of Government.—The question of raising the height of trees to be counted in determining the extent of gardens having *supari* intermingled with other produce to 12 feet, will be favourably considered. It is too soon to consider the abolition of the cess now.

SUBJECT No. 107.

Reservation of fifty yards on either side of watercourses in coffee land.

Mr. T. Narasinga Rao, North Mysore Native Planters' Association.

Summary of discussion.—As the planted trees serve the purpose for which jungle trees are now required to be left on either side of the streams, the restriction now imposed may be removed. The most fertile lands are to be found in these reserves, and by prohibiting their cultivation entirely both the coffee and cardamom industry are seriously handicapped. As fifty yards are required to be reserved on each side of the stream over its entire length the area so reserved is very considerable in the case of each stream. If it is absolutely necessary to enforce the restriction, it may be enforced near the source of the springs themselves.

Mr. Pilkington.—The restriction is enforced only in the case of coffee and cardamom. It is not enforced in the case of *supari* gardens, the area of which is much greater than that of coffee and cardamom estates. No serious results have ensued by the neglect of the rule and it is quite unnecessary. If necessary, jungles at the top of the hills may be reserved.

Mr. Malali Venkataramaiya.—If it is necessary to reserve such extensive areas it would be better to